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Organization:

Title:

Comments: [External Email]North Shore: Support Alternative 4 and Alternative 5

[External Email]

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Dear Frank Aebly,

Dear District Ranger Aebly and to whom it may concern,

This is the third and final part of my comments regarding toxic herbicide spraying for the North Shore project. I failed to mention that Imazapyr is known to be toxic to amphibians and fish in watercourses. Also, I mentioned in earlier comments that there needs to be analysis of the combined impacts from mercury being a component of soils in the region, to impacts from old mercury mines, to the herbicides used by the Mendocino National Forest and other applicators of toxic materials in the Clear Lake region.

If that isn't enough of a toxic problem, a very recent fire and spraying of fire retardant is a further toxic stress on the species of the North Shore project area of BERRYESSA - SNOW MOUNTAIN NATIONAL MONUMENT. Don't forget it -- just because you fail to manage to protect the objects of the Presidential Proclamation does not mean that it does not exist and that is not the law under which you must operate.

Fluazifop has been found to encouraging pathogens while discouraging bacteria which helps to promote vegetation growth. That on top of the herbicide I mentioned yesterday which hurts mycorrhizal fungi does not lead toward a natural and productive forest let alone over the long term where such fungi is essential.

The intense soil disturbance from heavy machinery on these sensitive soils would only increase the spread of invasive plant species across the forest. Please do not worsen this threat to native ecosystems and consider the cumulative impacts.

I am increasingly concerned about the health of our public lands and strongly opposed the use of herbicides. They are harmful to people, plants, insects, animals and soil. Controlling invasive species can be accomplished through safe and effective non-toxic alternatives.

I want to point out that the 6th point mentioned under the "Summary of Findings" which basically concludes that the Northern Spotted Owl is not impacted by the North Shore project says, "6. Use of herbicides/mechanical/hand treatments to release planted trees may reduce understory habitat for prey species". Hello ! A "reduction" in understory habitat for NSO "prey species" DOES have a negative impact on the NSO since that means not only less meals, but more toxic herbicide ingested when some scampering rodents are consumed by hunting NSOs. A combo of less prey and more toxic prey is not good for the NSO.

And finally, I still support Alternative 4 and the reduced logging of Alternative 5.

Sincerely yours,

Sincerely,

Bruce Campbell

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